

LINCOLN'S DEBT LETTER

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 29, 2009

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, history has a tendency to repeat itself, and those clever enough to comprehend that fact learn from mistakes the first time they occur and avoid them there after. In 1848, Abraham Lincoln received a request from his step-brother, John D. Johnston, for \$80. What seems to be a relatively small amount of money in current times proved to be an immense amount in the 1800s, roughly equating to \$1800 in current U.S. dollars. Having been fooled into giving Johnston money before Lincoln refused to play the role of a charity because his step-brother proved to be a lazy and idle man. Rather than spend the money he once received from Lincoln wisely on his family farm, he wasted it frivolously. Bailing his own family out was not a practice Lincoln took part in because those who asked for money were not deserving of it. Lincoln suggested that his idle step-brother spend his time working for his pay, which would alleviate all his debt and his labor would produce a reward. His step-brother refused to work for his money and wanted it to be handed to him, which seems very familiar in today's society.

History does indeed repeat itself and it appears that the requests of people like John D. Johnston are becoming more frequent, and rather than asking one's own family, they feel that the government is obligated to pay. It is evident that Lincoln did not favor a welfare system or bail-out plan, where the government handed over money to people and made it appear like it was their job to do so. It would be wise for today's politicians to learn from history and take a page out of Lincoln's book because handing money to people who do not work for it is only promoting an endless cycle of indolence, like that of John D. Johnston.

HONORING MAEVEEN MARIE BEHAN

HON. RAUL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 29, 2009

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an incredible public servant and community leader who has made an indelible mark on the Sonoran Desert region and on the community of Tucson, Arizona. Maeveen Marie Behan has changed the face of Pima County and will leave a legacy of successful community-based conservation planning and endangered species protection throughout the country by the work she has accomplished in Southern Arizona.

Maeveen Marie Behan, JD, PhD, was born July 13, 1961 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Maeveen lived in numerous states as a child and graduated from the University of Georgia with a BA in English. While in high school, Maeveen was the first woman in Georgia to break the six-minute mile. She continued her athletic prowess on the tennis court and has always loved to run races in any city where she vacationed. She is a rabid lifelong Alabama football and Chapel Hill basketball fan.

Maeveen met the love of her life, Harry Goldwasser, while they were students together at the University of Georgia. Harry and Maeveen married in 1986. Maeveen is devoted to her bloodhounds, "Sweet Peas" Charlie and Hermione, and has written a series of children's stories based on her dogs.

After Maeveen received her Juris Doctorate from the University of Alabama School of Law, and her husband Harry completed his residency at UNC Chapel Hill, they moved to Arizona, where they lived in Chinle while Maeveen worked for the Navajo Nation. They moved to Tucson in 1992 and Maeveen went to work for Pima County, where her career has encompassed numerous projects. In December 2006, Maeveen received her doctorate in Arid Lands Research Sciences researching the role of folklore in conservation; the title of her dissertation is Science and Lore in Animal Law. Reading up to four books a day, her interests are extremely diverse. She relishes mysteries, cartoons, myths, fables, and folklore throughout history.

Her extraordinary intelligence, integrity and high standards are reflected in everything she sets her hand to. Maeveen has accomplished the culmination of her life's work over the last decade as the principal author and guiding light of Pima County's national award winning Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan and as the first Director of the County's Office of Conservation Science and Environmental Policy. Maeveen is a prolific author, writing dozens of reports for the plan and directing over 200 others covering a wide variety of topics. Maeveen has been the leader in developing the County's efforts to preserve the key biological resources of the Sonoran Desert through a precedent setting Multi-species Habitat Conservation Plan. Maeveen has provided leadership for the community response to the listing of the cactus ferruginous pygmy-owl as a federally endangered species. The result has been hailed as a national model by local, regional and national media, planning and government agencies, and non-profit organizations for how to respond to the dilemma posed by urban growth and living with the environment. She recommended that the County broaden the scope of discussions to other important and vulnerable species as well as infrastructure, taxation, history, archeology, open space, housing, water, recreation and ranching. Instead of limiting the response to the boundaries of unincorporated Pima County, Maeveen suggested that the Board of Supervisors open the process to all affected entities, including ranchers, developers, environmental groups, tribal entities, interested citizens, and elected leaders of the incorporated entities.

Maeveen Behan's efforts have catalyzed support for open space acquisition, funding for repairing wildlife corridors, improved cooperation among jurisdictions, strengthening of Federal land commitments, and revisions of County policies and procedures.

Maeveen personally attended over 600 meetings with citizens and elected officials about the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan and made herself available night and day for over 3 years. She also inspired the science community to participate in developing the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan in a way that honored their integrity as scientists without intrusion of jurisdictional concerns or political pressure from interest groups. Maeveen

also created the Sonoran Desert Kids program to educate and inspire generations of young citizens about the importance of the desert ecosystem.

In 2001 the Board adopted the Conservation Lands System as the long-term, locally adopted vision for balancing economic integrity and protecting natural resources and cultural heritage in Pima County. Pima County is completing the final draft of its Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan for submittal to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Her commitment to transparency in government and to an open public process involving scientists, conservationists, business interests, multiple jurisdictions, government agencies and other stakeholders has been a model for the nation. Her keen insight, sense of duty, and humor inspires us all. Maeveen's professional and life mantra has always been, "Just do the right thing".

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 29, 2009

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of the Conference report accompanying H.R. 2996—Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman MIKE ROGERS (AL)

Bill Number: H.R. 2996

Account: NPS, Acquisitions, \$1,500,000

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Conservation Fund

Address of Requesting Entity: 4500 Hugh Howell Rd., Suite 470, Atlanta, GA 30084

Description of Request: "Little River Canyon" Taxpayer justification—It is my understanding that the funding would be used to allow the National Park Service (NPS) to acquire key parcels, only through willing sellers, within the new acquisition boundary of the Little River Canyon National Preserve.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF WALLY'S HOUSE OF EMBERS

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 29, 2009

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 50th anniversary of Wally's House of Embers. Located in Wisconsin Dells, House of Embers has been attracting local residents and hungry travelers since 1959. Offering much more than just legendary hickory smoked barbeque ribs, House of Embers has been an institution in Wisconsin's most popular tourist destination for decades.

When Wally and Barbara Obois purchased Ray's Barbeque from Ray Grieves in 1959 and renamed it House of Embers, the restaurant was little more than four walls and a dirt floor. But year after year, Mr. and Mrs. Obois and their five children worked tirelessly